

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, each year, from September 15 through October 15, we celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month, when we honor the contributions that Latinos have made throughout the communities in our Nation.

The Hispanic community embodies the idea that if you work hard, play by the rules and dream big, there is no limit to what you can achieve; after all, that is the American Dream. And achieve is exactly what we have done throughout our history. From serving in our military, to running 3.1 million Hispanic-owned businesses, the Hispanic community is an important part of moving our country forward.

We also know that to keep our country competitive, we must finally fix a broken immigration system. We believe that it is past time to offer hard-working Americans a pathway to citizenship. The future of our Nation depends largely on the future of all of our communities. Together, we keep fighting to give the next generation a meaningful shot at the American Dream. That dream is what we celebrate this month in Hispanic Heritage Month.

My mother used to say common sense tells us that we ought to always put our country before our politics.

THE PRESIDENT'S LAW DISCRIMINATES

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the Affordable Care Act is here to stay, saith the President. But his legacy landmark law discriminates.

The President has arbitrarily granted extensions to Big Business, to some small businesses, and some State exchanges, but ordinary Americans—no extensions for them. I guess special interest groups just have more clout with the President than normal people do. Too bad. Everyone should be treated alike. Postpone ObamaCare for everybody for 1 year. Don't discriminate.

The second place the President's wonder law discriminates is who is subject to this law of the land. The President touts his law as good for America. But why has he granted over 1,200 waivers for special groups—waivers to labor unions, for example? That's not fair—waivers for some, but not for others.

So delay ObamaCare for at least a year for all Americans and either grant waivers for all Americans or put those 1,200 groups back into this bill. It's unconstitutional for the constitutional law professor to wave his wand of exemptions and delay for some but not for others. That's just not fair.

And that's just the way it is.

WHY CAN'T HHS BE HONEST WITH U.S. CONGRESS?

(Mr. BURGESS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, while the President was again defending his health care law, the Department of Health and Human Services announced even more delays. This train wreck of a health care law is quickly derailing, but the President continues to provide delays and exemptions for everyone except ordinary Americans.

After the President and the administration promised time and time again that the exchanges would be ready and online October 1, several States have said consumers are actually just going to have to wait. Maybe you can send in a paper application if you're anxious.

Last week, on September 19, I asked the director of the agency charged with implementing the exchanges: Will the enrollment process be ready October 1 of this year? I actually posed that as a yes or no question. His answer: Consumers will be able to go online, they will be able to get a determination of what tax subsidies they are eligible for, they will be able to look at the plans that are available where they live, they will be able to see the premium net of subsidy that they would have to pay, and they will be able to choose a plan and get enrolled. Hardly a yes or no answer to a yes or no question. But nevertheless, yesterday's actions by HHS bespeak what really is the case. His answer should have been: No, they will not be ready.

GET IRS AWAY FROM HEALTH CARE

(Mr. MARCHANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, a report released yesterday from the Treasury Inspector General shows that the IRS failed to track \$67 million spent in the implementation of ObamaCare so far. This is before the health exchanges are even opened. My constituents, like myself, are concerned that this type of waste is what happens when Washington takes over health care.

The IRS has consistently demonstrated its inability to function as a responsible agency. Despite the scandals and blatant mismanagement by the IRS, the agency is also at the forefront of running our health care system.

The IRS has little credibility with the American taxpayers right now. The agency must significantly be reformed before we should let them anywhere near our health care system.

I encourage my colleagues to join me in repealing ObamaCare and getting the IRS completely away from our health care.

□ 1100

CELEBRATION OF THE CAREER OF DR. LEVI WATKINS, JR.

(Mr. CUMMINGS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Levi Watkins, a pioneer in the medical field and civil rights movement.

After four decades with Johns Hopkins Medicine, Dr. Watkins will retire on December 31, 2013. He is a man of many firsts. He was the first African American to attend and graduate from Vanderbilt Medical School.

His first scientific breakthrough was his research into the connection between the renin angiotensin system and congestive heart failure that led to the use of angiotensin blockers in the treatment of heart failure. He also performed the first implantation of the automatic implantable defibrillator in the human heart.

Dr. Watkins fought for African Americans' civil rights in the 1950s and fought for equal opportunities in education throughout his career, increasing minority enrollment at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine by 400 percent in 4 years.

I thank Dr. Watkins for all that he has done for our Nation and for the legacy he leaves to inspire generations yet unborn.

RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS

(Mr. TIPTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I believe the sense of this House—and certainly the American people—is that the Constitution of the United States is worthy of protecting, and the rights that are afforded in that Constitution are worthy of protecting.

Unfortunately, the administration has unilaterally decided to try and obligate citizens of the United States to the UN's mandates when it comes to the small arms treaty affecting the Second Amendment rights of every American. I believe that we should not be held accountable, we should not be held in submission to the whims of an unelected organization on the world stage.

The value of our Constitution, the value of our rights must be protected. We must urge the United States Senate to reject the treaty that Secretary Kerry has just signed. Stand up for the rights of Americans, stand up for the rights of Americans to be able to keep and bear arms, and protect the Second Amendment of the United States.

OBAMACARE

(Mrs. BACHMANN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. BACHMANN. Mr. Speaker, I think it is very clear that the President's health care plan is completely unworkable. Not only is it unworkable, it is unfair to nearly everyone in the United States—businessperson and individual alike.

Hardworking Americans know it because their premiums are skyrocketing and, even worse, they are getting notices in the mail that they are being told that their health insurance is being pulled altogether.

Small businesses know it. They are having to respond by not hiring the people they want to hire—in some cases, even having to fire—or reducing the amount of hours to below 30 hours a week.

People in the President's own party know it. The gentleman that wrote this bill called the bill a nightmare. Even the labor unions that support the President know this. They have called this bill a nightmare, and they've said it is breaking the back on the American Dream, breaking the back on the 40-hour workweek and on health care benefits.

Even the President knows it. He has admitted, despite saying the law is working just as it is supposed to, the President just once again had to have yet one more delay in ObamaCare—in fact, over 19 times.

That is why we are asking, Mr. Speaker, for fairness in a workable health care law.

SPENDING BILL

(Mr. BLUMENAUER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, it is interesting listening to the parade of horrors recounted on the floor of the House today; but as a practical matter, in States like mine, in Oregon, people are going to get better coverage at lower costs—and California, New York, and Colorado, where people are actually working to implement the law rather than sabotage it.

But this is a smokescreen. Obscuring the fact that when my Republican friends talk, for example, about spending in debt, they are actually afraid to allow the House of Representatives to vote on their own spending bill because their own Members won't vote for it. That is why it has been 2 months and we have never finished deliberation on the Transportation bill. They pulled the Interior bill all together. They even refused to allow to have a conference committee formed to reconcile the differences between the House and the Senate.

It is a sad chapter when the fractured Republicans stand around when Americans deserve better. There is no reason the Senate could not have its bill before us today and the House Republican leadership bring us back into session. Instead, we are going to stall and stumble all we can up to the brink.

SENATE NEEDS TO DO THEIR JOB

(Mr. CULBERSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CULBERSON. Mr. Speaker, my colleague from Oregon is correct. It is important that the Congress get our work done on making sure that our military is fully funded and paid, that our veterans, the military construction, the bases around the world are taken care of, that Homeland Security is taken care of. But we have done that. It has already been done in the House.

The Senate has had our Homeland Security appropriations bills for over 3 months. The Senate has had possession of a military construction and veterans appropriations bill for over 3 months. The Senate has also had the Department of Defense appropriations bill for over 3 months. Yet they have irresponsibly chosen to just sit on them to set them up for this moment, because they know that House Republicans are devoted to delaying and defunding ObamaCare, one of the most destructive pieces of legislation ever passed by Congress that will destroy jobs and cripple this economy and socialize the greatest health care system the world has ever created.

We are committed as constitutional conservatives to doing everything in our power to make sure that we delay and defund ObamaCare. But at the same time, we have already done our job in making sure that our military—our men and women in uniform—have everything they need if the Senate will only do their job.

OBAMACARE

(Mr. PITTENGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTENGER. Mr. Speaker, the false promises of ObamaCare are now coming to light. The President promised a \$2,500 reduction in premiums. Well, the average now is \$3,000.

I get countless calls every day and emails from my constituents about the increase in their premiums. One emailed me today that his increase was 200 percent. An \$11,000 deductible cost him \$1,100 a month. That is intolerable. Mr. Speaker, we have to address this today.

Another one called and said: ROBERT, it's gone up 250 percent on my premiums. This is wrong. We were promised jobs. Speaker PELOSI said: Well, we are going to have 4 million new jobs, 400,000 almost immediately.

Well, what's happened?

Seventy-one percent of all the new businesses, they're not hiring today. They're certainly not hiring full-time people. We lost 250,000 full-time jobs just in the month of June. It's killing jobs in this country.

It's a false promise on keeping your own health care plan. Seven million

new people now cannot keep the health care plan that they were promised.

Mr. Speaker, it's time we address this today and relieve the American people from ObamaCare.

OBAMACARE

(Mr. GOHMERT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I was sitting back here when a Democratic leader came to that microphone and with indignation in his voice demanded the Republicans act responsibly.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask you: Was it responsible for the Democratic Party, when they had Republicans willing to say, yeah, we will agree to a bill that let's 26-year-olds be on their insurance with their parents, we will agree to work something out so insurance companies can't abuse people with pre-existing conditions—they didn't want our help. They said, We don't need your vote. They didn't get one because they didn't want it.

They took a massive—my copy was about 2,500 pages, rammed it down America's throats without even having them stick out their tongue and say, "Ahh." This is irresponsible.

We are the ones that are acting responsibly and trying to mitigate the damage they've done to the American people—their health care they've lost they didn't get to keep, their doctors they've lost they didn't get to keep, and now the economy that's been devastated.

OBAMACARE

(Mr. GARRETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GARRETT. Mr. Speaker, your privacy is under attack. The Affordable Care Act, ObamaCare, is creating a data hub for every American's personal health information and financial information. It's basically a central location for all of America, for all of your private and sensitive information.

Can America really trust this system that has key information on your income, your Social Security numbers, your emails, your family size, your medical records, and the list goes on? The answer is "no."

With the ObamaCare data hub, an American's personal information will be shared from the Department of Justice, the Social Security Administration, the Department of Homeland Security. The IRS will send information, the Treasury Department, Health and Human Services.

We have already witnessed many security breaches within numerous government agencies, and the potential for abuse here is staggering. We know a system like this will be attractive to identity thieves. It is clear that a system that has not been tested for security systems cannot adequately protect all of our security information and our